Dr. Jerry Donohue University of Pennsylvania Department of Chemistry Philadelphia, Penn. 19104 U.S.A.

Dear Jerry

I was not surprised that you felt you had to reply to Nature's remarks, but I feel it was a pity that you had to repeat that I did not understand the nature of diffraction, since it is quite clear to me that you did not understand what I meant by effectively centric. I have spoken to John Maddox on the 'phone. Rather than write a hasty letter in reply to yours, I agreed to write a considered article setting out the points at issue as I see them. However, for this I need to know your views on the relative ease of making mistakes for centric and non-centric structures, so that I do not misrepresent you. Could you, therefore, let me have a reply to this point as set out in my last letter (if you have not already done so)?